

Regular Session, 2013  
HOUSE BILL NO. 480  
BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHEXNAYDER

# ACT No. 161

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 36:609(B)(2) and (C)(1), relative to the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; to provide that regulation of seismic operations is the responsibility of the office of wildlife; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 36:609(B)(2) and (C)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§609. Offices; purposes and functions

\* \* \*

B. The office of wildlife shall:

\* \* \*

(2) Perform the functions of the state relative to the administration, operation, and law enforcement of programs, including research, related to the Louisiana Natural Areas Registry; natural and scenic rivers; the regulation of seismic operations; and water pollution control and prevention and review and monitoring of activities occurring in the coastal zone and wetland areas as shall be delegated or assigned to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or any of the agencies transferred to said department by law.

\* \* \*

C. The office of fisheries shall:

(1) Perform the functions of the state relating to administration and operation programs, including research, relating to saltwater fisheries, water bottoms, and

1 seafoods, including but not limited to the regulation of the oyster, shrimp, and  
2 marine fishing industries, the leasing of and regulations of the use of water bottoms  
3 for cultivation and propagation of oysters, mariculture, and the dredging of sand,  
4 gravel, and fill materials, ~~the regulation of seismic operations,~~ the licensing of  
5 vessels engaged in the industry, establishing and maintaining oyster seed grounds,  
6 the control of the shrimp fishery and shrimp industry in the state and the licensing  
7 of persons engaged therein, and the collection of the severance tax on shrimp,  
8 oysters, sand, gravel, and fill materials severed from state water bottoms.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_